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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

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Gdansk Polytechnic Institute and
Reserve Training at Zegrze

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report containing information on
compulsory military training and summer camp training at the Gdansk
(Danzig) Polytechnic Institute and reserve training at the Officers
Radio Communications School in Zegrze.

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COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING AT DANZIG POLYTECHNIC
INSTITUTE AND RESERVE TRAINING INFORMATION

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COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING AT DANZIG POLYTECHNIC
INSTITUTE AND RESERVE TRAINING INFORMATION

A. COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING AT DANZIG POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Introduction

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Given below is [] general information on compulsory military training required to be taken by all male students at the Danzig Polytechnic Institute. 50X1-HUM
[] in the winter of 1950 a compulsory military training program came into effect in all schools of higher learning (academies, universities, and polytechnical institutes) in Poland. This course was called "Military Preparation or Qualification" (Przysposobienie Wojskowe).

1. Classroom Instruction

a. Time Devoted to Military Training

At Danzig Polytechnic Institute, students received from six to 10 periods (a period consisting of 50 minutes) of classroom instruction during regular school hours, one day a week throughout the entire school year, for a period of three school years. Summer training was required after the first and second years of military training []

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[] a similar program existed in all other schools of higher learning.

b. Military Faculty

The military training was conducted by four regular army officers, assigned to the Danzig Polytechnic Institute, with the help of students who had had previous military training. [] these instructors were from the Signal branch since the military training curriculum emphasized Signal subjects.

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2. Subjects Taught

a. Basic Military Training

Military training during the first year consisted primarily of physical training, close order drill, marches, bayonet practice, manual of arms, and military tactics at squad and platoon level.

b. Basic Weapons Instruction

The nomenclature and operation of the following weapons was given in the classroom during the first, second, and third year.

7.62 mm Carbine M-1944 (Krutki Bojowy Karabin KBK)

7.62 mm Submachine Gun PPS 1943 (Pistol Maszynowy PPS-43)

7.62 mm Submachine Gun PPSH 1941 (Pistol Maszynowy PPSH-41)

7.62 mm Light Machine Gun Model DP (Leki Karabin Maszynowy DP)

7.62 mm Tokarev Pistol Tt-1933 (Pistol Tt-33)

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Explanations were given of the Tokarev pistol, several types of anti-personnel hand grenades (exact nomenclature and types unknown), and the structure and component parts of different kinds of ammunition (types unknown) in 1952.

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c. General Military Subjects

[redacted] the following subjects were taught during military instruction periods:

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Political Indoctrination (Polityczna Nauka)

Regulations (Regulaminy)

Drill Instructions (Musztra)

Terrain Knowledgeability (Tereno Znanstwo)

Tactical Training (Wyszkolenie Taktyczne)

Infantry Structure (Struktura Piechoty)

Topography (Topografia)

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d. Signal Training

Students were given instruction in the following subjects in their signal training during the three year period:

Basic Construction of Signal Equipment

Function of Parts of Radio and Telephone Equipment

Sources of Power

Maintenance of Signal Equipment

Proper Radio Procedure

General Principles of Signal Corps Tactics

Telephone and Radio Nets between headquarters at different levels and subordinate units during the attack and/or defense

Other Means of Communication: (Runner, carrier pigeons, etc.)

Types of Message Centers: (Rear line, central, and forward positions)

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Basic instruction was given on the following signal equipment:

Telephone: TAI-43 (USSR) and AP-48 (Polish)

Radio: RB, RBM-1, A-7-A, and RSBF

Telegraph: ST-35 (Polish), BODO (USSR) and Morse

Switchboard: LP-10 and LP-30

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3. First Year Summer Training in 1951

a. Notification and Reporting

In June 1951, [] 120 students from the Danzig Polytechnic Institute were notified by the members of the military faculty to report for their 30-day summer training to the summer training site at BENJAMINOW (N52-27, E21-09) and were given travel orders to this destination. This area was located approximately 30 km north of WARSAW and five kilometers northeast of the Legionowo Railway Station on the WARSAW-DANZIG railroad line.

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The bivouac area was located along a road which went through a forest, in an east-west direction. On the north side of the road, for a distance of approximately two kilometers, a section was completely lined with tents belonging to unidentified reserve units, summer training students, and a regular signal unit which was rumored to be the 5th Sig Regt from WARSAW located there for summer training. [] the cadre for this area was comprised of personnel of the 5th Sig Regt. []

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[] Students travelled to this destination unaccompanied and were met at the Benjaminow railroad station by an unidentified member of the cadre. From there they were marched to the bivouac area.

b. Clothing and Equipment Issue

Immediately upon arrival at the summer training camp [] the men were issued the following clothing and equipment:

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- 1 summer field uniform (khaki)
- 1 field cap
- 1 pair rough leather knee-length boots
- 1 set underwear
- 2 leather belts
- 1 towel
- 2 handkerchiefs
- 2 blankets
- 2 sheets
- 1 pillow case².

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- 1 rucksack
- 1 spoon
- 1 canteen with wool cover
- 1 meat canister

Each student was assigned a 7.62 mm carbine, M-1944 (KHK) by serial number, but it was not issued to him until needed for training. The carbines were kept in the company armament shack next to the supply room in the rear of the company area.

c. Medical Examination

The same day, after the issuance of the military clothing and equipment, the men were sent to the showers located in the rear of the company area, where a doctor gave each man a minor physical check-up.

After the showers the men dressed in their newly issued uniforms, placed their civilian clothing in bags issued for that purpose, and turned them in to the company supply room.

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d. Training Schedule

- 0500-0515 Physical training
- 0515-0535 Personal toilet
- 0535-0600 Dressing and policing of individual areas
- 0600-0620 Political instruction and current news events; this was alternated daily with instruction on firing positions with the rifle
- 0620-0700 Breakfast³.
- 0700-0730 Preparation for classes
- 0730-1500 Class instruction and practical application⁴.
- 1500-1530 Lunch⁵.
- 1530-1630 Rest period (compulsory)⁶.
- 1630-1730 Group study classes
- 1730-1930 Political and choral classes
- 1930-2030 Supper⁷.
- 2030-2130 Company details
- 2130-2140 Orders of the day and company announcements
- 2130-2155 Compulsory evening walk
- 2200- Lights out⁸.

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e. Sunday Training

Sunday was considered a duty day and troops were awakened at 0600 hours; training on Sundays consisted of physical exercises and sports. Two hours before lunch were devoted to compulsory letter writing. Lunch was served at 1300 hours. At 1400 hours trainees had either a compulsory soccer match or a swimming session.

f. Pass Policy and morale

No passes were issued during the course of the 30 day training period except for emergency reasons. The morale of the students was very low regarding summer training because it infringed on their summer vacation periods.

g. Completion of Summer Training and Return to DANZIG

At the end of the 30-day summer training period the students returned their issued clothing and equipment to the supply room and received back their civilian clothing and personal effects. Following this they received travelling orders to DANZIG and were marched to the railroad station of BENJAMINOW. From there they travelled unaccompanied.

4. Second Year Summer Training in 1952

The same general procedure was followed for the compulsory summer training in 1952, and it took place in the same location. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] the "harassment" was limited to duty 50X1-HUM
hours only. °.

5. Commissioning of Graduates

a. Pre-Commissioning Physical Examination

[redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] medical examination
[redacted] consisted of an ear, eye, and nose examination; blood test; chest-X-ray; urinalysis; fluoroscope; dental check; orthopedic examination; and neurology examination.

[redacted] No
other physical examinations were given [redacted] after this medical examination.

[redacted] men who had failed the physical examination were notified by WKR that they were excused from military duty.

b. Commissioning of Graduates

Students who completed military training satisfactorily and who qualified academically received commissions as Warrant Officer ("Junior Lieutenant") in the reserve shortly before graduation. Students who failed to meet the required academic standards were dropped from the military training roster. [redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] It was common knowledge that students whose parents had capitalistic inclinations (for example, those who were private practitioners or who operated their own business) and those students who had had service with the German Army during WW II were considered risk cases and were not required to take military training.

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At the same time he was notified by mail to report to the WKR office to receive military identification book as an officer in the reserve.

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B. [] RESERVE TRAINING

1. Three Months' Active Duty Tour at a Signal School in 1953

a. Reporting Procedure

[] notified by mail to report to the offices of the WKR. [] asked about [] job status and place of employment and both items were entered on the records kept there. [] report for reserve training within one month [] at the offices of the WKR, [] given a travel voucher and orders which listed [] reporting time and installation, the latter being the Officers' Radio Communication School (Oficerska Szkoła Łączności Radio) in ZEGRZE. 1., 10.

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b. Release From Active Duty

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[] after three months' training at the Officers' Radio Communication School at ZEGRZE, all military clothing and equipment were returned to the supply room and reservists were given back their civilian clothing. [] identity books were brought from school headquarters and returned to the reservists with an entry stating that the holder had successfully completed [] first three month period of reserve training. [] also given travel vouchers and a letter of affidavit to their individual employers, stating that the bearer had been in reserve training for the past three months. This letter [] entitled the bearer to one month of full wages and two months of 50 percent of [] monthly wages from [] employer.

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2. Active Duty Training and Participation in 1954 Maneuvers

a. Reporting Procedure

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[] notified by mail to report to the WKR office in DANZIG. []

b. Reserve Training Assignment

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[] Because of an over-strength of officer personnel, [] the last two weeks of [] reserve training attached to an unidentified signal platoon of the 159th Heavy Artillery Regiment which arrived from an unidentified installation in CHOSZCZNO (N53-10, E15-25) (UTM WU 281913) along with other unidentified units from the area of SZCZECIN to participate in a maneuver simulating the use of an atomic bomb in a defensive action against an invading aggressor. [] they took place during the last 10 days of September.

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c. Maneuver with Simulated Atomic Bomb Drop

(1) Maneuver Problem

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An enemy task force had landed on the coast line of Poland in the vicinity of KOLOBRZEG (exact location unknown) and had advanced rapidly inland. All Polish units [redacted] in the immediate area were concentrated against the enemy, flanking him and halting his advance temporarily.

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[redacted] unit was three kilometers to the rear of the main line of defense. [redacted] skirmishes taking place with the enemy, but [redacted] unit was not used in any support action during that time. Two days prior to the simulated atom bomb explosion, regimental headquarters issued orders for all subordinate units to dig in. On the day set for the atomic drop, all troops were alerted to exercise the utmost caution in taking proper cover.

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(2) Simulated Atom Bomb Drop and Explosion

Several minutes before 0600 hours on the day of the drop, a single plane appeared in the sky (type of plane and altitude of flight unknown [redacted]). All personnel were ordered to take cover in the prepared trenches. At exactly 0600 hours the first of a chain of three explosions was heard and, several seconds later, the second. [redacted] curiosity had gotten the best of most of the personnel and a great number of them looked out of the trenches in time to see the third explosion and flash, high above the surface of the earth (height of the explosion unknown [redacted]).

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[redacted] some unidentified officers discussing the procedure and equipment used to simulate the atomic bomb explosion. Three balloons were used, which were filled with helium and blocks of dynamite (quantity unknown) with time fuses set to explode in succession. The first two had light charges and exploded on or near the ground, while the third, having a heavy charge (because of the intensity of the blast), was detonated high above the surface. [redacted]

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(3) Actions of Personnel

All personnel were ordered to take cover in the trenches and were reprimanded for their actions; they were also ordered to put on their gas masks. The men stayed under cover for 15 minutes after the final explosion, after which time the order was given to break camp and load vehicles. [redacted]

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[redacted] The unit was ordered to go forward on the road in convoy formation. [redacted]

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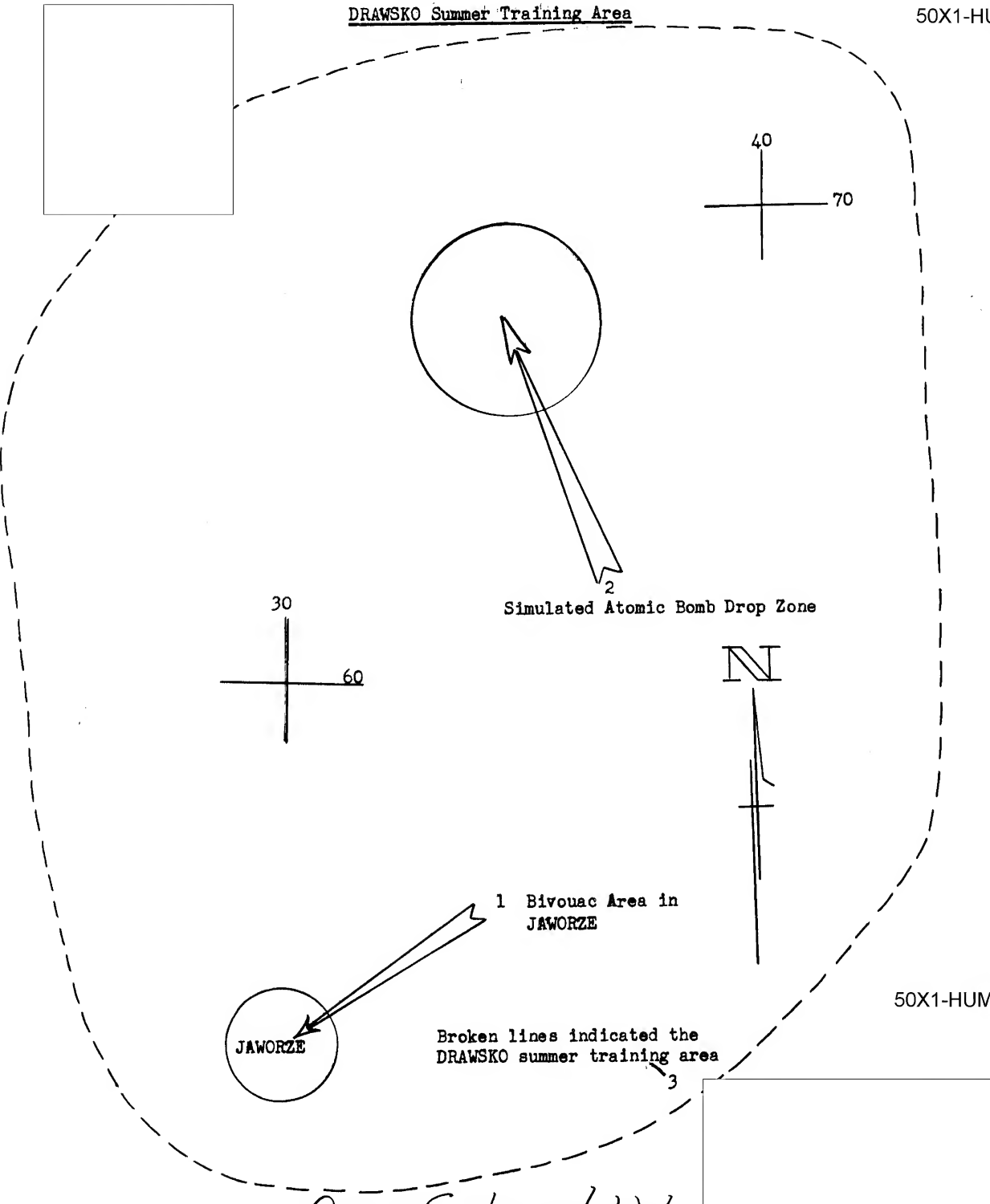
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Annex A

DRAWSKO Summer Training Area

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